

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is proposing to reissue the Maine Construction General Permit to cover regulated activities under the Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Stormwater Program. The regulated activity covered under the general permit includes construction activities that disturb one or more acres of land.

Copies of the Maine Construction General Permit (draft reissue) and Fact Sheet are available at the DEP's web site or by contacting the Department.

1. To get a copy of the Maine Construction General Permit (draft reissue) go to:

[www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/comment.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/comment.htm)

2. For more information on Maine's Stormwater Program, go to:

[www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docstand/stormwater/index.htm](http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docstand/stormwater/index.htm)

The public is invited to submit comments in writing at the address given below. E-mail and fax (207-287-7191) may also be used to submit comments. To insure consideration, comments must include the submitter's name and organization represented if any. Comments must be received by no later than 5:00 p.m. June 11, 2004. Reissuing this general permit shall be effective on July 1, 2004, and authorization to discharge under this general permit will expire two years from that date.

Maine DEP is not intending to hold public meetings on the MCGP since it is virtually unchanged from its issuance of March 10, 2003. The Department has changed the definition of "Disturbed area" so that it is consistent with Chapter 500. Also, activities disturbing less than 5 acres that filed a notice of intent (NOI) and met the standards of the previous MCGP will not have to re-file a NOI to obtain authorization under the reissued MCGP for continuing activity, provided that the standards continue to be met and the total area disturbed is less than 5 acres. The Department has determined that the NOI requirement would be inappropriate given the minimal changes to the general permit, the previous NOI filing, and the expected type, nature, volume, and number of the discharges. The Department has authority to authorize such a discharge under a general permit, pursuant to Chapter 529(2)(b)(2)(v), from a continuing activity including less than 5 acres of disturbed area only, without requiring another NOI.

No public hearing has been scheduled. Persons wishing to request a public hearing may do so during the comment period. The request must be in writing and state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing. The Department will notify anyone commenting if a public hearing is scheduled. Such a hearing would provide interested parties with the opportunity to provide written and/or oral comments for the official record.

Comments concerning reissuing the Maine Construction General Permit should be directed to David Ladd; Maine Department of Environmental Protection; 17 State House Station; Hospital Street; Augusta, Maine 04333; 207-287-5404. E-mail: [david.ladd@maine.gov](mailto:david.ladd@maine.gov)